

MINUTES
of the
SANTA BARBARA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: May 27, 2003

PLACE: 550 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair, John Britton, Directors, Olivia Rodriguez, Lee Moldaver, and General Manager Gary Gleason

OTHERS PRESENT: Browning Allen (City of Santa Barbara), Joshua Molina (Santa Barbara News-Press), Sherrie Fisher and Barbra Nelson (MTD)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair, Britton called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call of the Board of Directors

Vice Chair Britton noted that all Board members were present except Chair Untermann and Director Udd.

3. Report Regarding Posting of Agenda

General Manager Gary Gleason reported that the agenda for this meeting was posted at the MTD administrative headquarters one week prior to the meeting and mailed to media of general circulation.

4. Approval of Prior Minutes Report

Director Rodriguez moved to waive the reading of, and approve the minutes for the meeting of May 13, 2003. Director Moldaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Cash Report

Director Moldaver moved to adopt the cash report for the period of May 6, 2003, through May 19, 2003. Director Rodriguez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment

Bob Westwick, the new Executive Director of Easy Lift, came to introduce himself.

Transportation Manager, City of Santa Barbara, Browning Allen and News-Press Reporter, Joshua Molina were present to observe.

7. April Budget Report

The General Manager reported that, although there is the persistent problem of high worker's compensation costs, MTD is meeting budget. Mr. Gleason said that MTD staff would present a more in-depth analysis of the budget at the June 10th Board meeting.

8. April Ridership Report

The General Manager reported that Ridership turned a corner with an overall increase of 8.4% in April 2003, over April 2002. Mr. Gleason further noted that the Shuttle was up 26.8%, University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) was up 25% and Santa Barbara City College was up 11%.

9. General Manager's Report

Mr. Gleason reported that there is new State legislation pending (referred to as Wage Order # 9) regarding transportation employees who have been exempt from traditional breaks. Assistant General Manager, Sherrie Fisher reported that MTD has been in constant contact with the Teamster Union negotiators and specifics regarding breaks are in the contract, but if the legislation passes, it would be very difficult to logistically work out breaks and would impact the MTD budget and ridership. Mr. Gleason noted that the legislation had passed the California State Assembly and is in the Senate.

The General Manager announced that the June 10th Board meeting will be a public meeting in the large meeting room downstairs to go over budget/service/fare proposals instead of the previously scheduled workshop for the Board and General Manager. In addition, Mr. Gleason stated that MTD would be running three newspaper advertisements over the month of June describing MTD staff budget/fare/service proposals. The Assistant General Manager reviewed the results of the public meetings in May, summarizing that riders would prefer to pay more rather than have service reduced. Ms. Fisher also noted that Spanish translation was available at all the recent public meetings.

Mr. Gleason reviewed the progress of the Haley Yard project, noting that even with several obstacles, major work should be completed in September.

The General Manager handed out a brief summary/analysis of an agreement that MTD will be entering into for a 15-bus piggyback purchase with the Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority.

Mr. Gleason gave an update on Federal Transportation bill known as T21, which could impact funding. Mr. Gleason said that MTD is also supporting legislation that would be for transit-intensive communities like Santa Barbara.

10. Other Business and Committee Reports

Director Rodriguez asked about the replacement of Director Udd and public notice of the Calle Real project. Vice Chair Britton reported that the personnel committee would meet next week. Director Moldaver noted that it was the responsibility of the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara to do outreach for the Calle Real Project.

11. Adjournment

Director Moldaver moved to adjourn the meeting and Director Rodriguez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.